IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of) Attorney Docket No.: ASAIN0188
Kazuhiko KATSUMATA) Confirmation No.: 3283
Serial No.: 10/599,034) Group Art Unit: 3749
Filed: September 18, 2006) Examiner: Gregory A. Wilson
For: DOUBLE-CHAMBER TYPE HEAT- TREATING FURNACE) Date: July 22, 2009

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MAIL STOP: Amendment

United States Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, this Information Disclosure Statement in connection with the above-identified application is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

The documents identified on Form PTO/SB/08A were cited in a related co-pending US application no. 10/562,498, filed December 27, 2005, which relates to a Gas Cooling Type Vacuum Heating Treating Furnace (Atty. Dkt. ASAIN0173). Their relevance is believed to be clear from their relation to the subject matter of the present invention.

Accordingly, no further comment regarding the disclosures of these documents is believed to be required. A copy of each non-U.S. document identified on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A is attached, however, in accordance with Official Gazette Notice dated August 5, 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

It is respectfully requested that the attached documents be considered and officially cited, and that the Examiner initial a copy of Form PTO/SB/08A, and return it to the undersigned to indicate that the documents have been considered.

The requisite fee of \$180.00 is attached herewith. It is believed that the present Information Disclosure Statement complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97-8, but the Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1281.

Respectfully submitted, GRIFFIN & SZIPL, PC

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